## **BEFORE**

## THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

DOCKET NOS. 2005-74-WS and 2005-87-WS - ORDER NO. 2005-428

AUGUST 16, 2005

| IN RE: | Docket No. 2005-74-WS – Application of Melrose Utility Company, Inc. for Approval of an Adjustment in Rates and Charges for Water and Sewer Services            | )   | ORDER APPOINTING<br>HEARING OFFICER |
|--------|---|-----|-------------------------------------|
|        | Docket No. 2005-87-WS – Application of CUC, Inc. for Approval of a New Schedule of Rates and Charges for Water and Sewerage Service Provide to its Customers at | ))) |                                     |
|        | Callawassie Island and Spring Island in Beaufort County, South Carolina.  | )   |                                     |

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Commission's Motion to appoint Ms. Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire, to serve as a hearing officer in the instant dockets regarding the Application of Melrose Utility Company, Inc. for approval of an adjustment in rates and charges and regarding the Application of CUC, Inc. for approval of a new schedule of rates and charges. This appointment is in order that the hearing officer may dispose of procedural and evidentiary matters pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-3-40 (Supp. 2004). The Motion is granted.

Section 58-3-40(C)(1) states that upon the request of any party or any commissioner, the Commission may employ a hearing officer who may hear and determine procedural motions or other matters not determinative of the merits of the

proceedings. Under (C)(2), the hearing officer has full authority, subject to being overruled by the Commission, to rule on questions concerning the conduct of the case and other matters. Under (C)(3), the officer must be an attorney qualified to practice in all courts of this State with a minimum of eight years' practice experience.

We find that Ms. Jocelyn G. Boyd meets this qualification, and we therefore grant the Motion appointing her as hearing officer in the present cases.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:

G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)